

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 361

By Watson

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Morris Greene of Cleveland.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Morris W. Greene; and

WHEREAS, the son of the late Jessie Alene Brien Greene and John William Greene, Mr. Greene was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, a thirty-nine-year veteran of the military, Morris Greene organized and commanded the 402nd Military Police Battalion of the Tennessee Defense Force; he was promoted through the ranks to Brigadier General and commanded the Fourth Infantry Brigade of the Tennessee Defense Force; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Greene's other military accomplishments include serving in the United States Navy during World War II; serving in the United States Army in the Korean War, where he received the rank of Chief Warrant Officer 4; serving with the Tennessee National Guard for twenty-eight years, and serving in the U.S. Army Reserve for seven years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Greene also served with acumen and alacrity for many years as the owner and operator of the Morris Greene State Farm agency, in which position he earned the respect of his clients and the community for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, a vital member of his community and a participant in civic affairs, Mr. Greene served as a charter member and President of the Multi-County Car Theft Committee; a member of the Board of Directors and Vice President of the Cleveland Jaycees; a charter member and President of the Optimist Club; an institutional representative and Troop Committee Chairman for Troop 65, and Safety Chairman for the Cherokee Council of the Boy Scouts of America; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Greene lent his active support to the Cleveland-Bradley Community Chest, of which he served as Board of Directors Member and twice the Campaign Chairman; the Cleveland-Bradley March of Dimes, which he served as Chapter Chairman, member of the Board of Directors, and Treasurer; the Cleveland Y.M.C.A., which he served as member of the Board of Directors;

WHEREAS, Mr. Greene also dedicated his time and talents to the United States Civil Defense Council, which he served as Vice President; the Tennessee Civil Defense Association, which he served as President; the Board of Directors for the Cleveland Country Club; the Boys Club of Cleveland, for which he served as an organizer, a member of the Board of Directors, Treasurer, and President; the Service Corps of Retired Executives; the Cleveland Amateur Radio Club, of which he was a co-founder; the Retired Senior Volunteer Program; and the Cleveland-Bradley County Civil Defense; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Greene also served the town of Cleveland and Bradley County in the capacities of organizer and Co-Chairman of the Fiftieth Anniversary Celebration Committee World War II; organizer and Chairman of the Board of the Bradley County Emergency Medical Service, for which he had an ambulance named in his honor; Chairman of the Flood Plain Study Committee; volunteer fireman; organizer of the Public Service Unit with the Cleveland Police Department; Selective Service Registrar for Bradley County; and founder, incorporator, and Chairman of the Board for Hearts United; and

WHEREAS, in conjunction with his military service, Morris Greene was involved in the State Defense Force Association of the United States; the Retired Officer Association; the American Legion Post 81; the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2598; and the BPOE Lodge 1944, for which he served as chaplain; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to honors and accolades, Mr. Greene received the Distinguished Public Service Award from the Pilot Club of Cleveland; the Certificate of Merit, Commendation Ribbon, and the Meritorious Service Ribbon from the Tennessee Defense Force; a certificate of appreciation from the Federal Emergency Management Agency; the Distinguished Service Citation from the U.S. Civil Defense Council; the Distinguished Service Citation and the Commendation Certificate from the State of Tennessee Emergency Management Agency; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Greene was also a recipient of the Governors Outstanding Tennessee Award; the Certificate of Appreciation, the Colonel Aid de Camp Governor's Staff, and Honorary Sergeant at Arms for the Tennessee State Senate; the Distinguished Service Citation from the Cleveland Fire Department; the Commendation Ribbon from the Tennessee National Guard; the Commendation Medal from the U.S. Army; the Service to Mankind Award from the local, State, and regional Sertoma Clubs; the Humanitarian Award from the Optimist Club of Cleveland; and the Gold Keystone Award with Star and the Silver Keystone Award from the Boys Club of Cleveland; he also received many military medals and ribbons; and

WHEREAS, Morris. Greene was an active and devout member of the Senior Adult Sunday School Class of Westwood Baptist Church, which he served faithfully for many years; and

WHEREAS, deeply devoted to his family, Mr. Green always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Morris Greene enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Jody Parke Greene, who preceded him in death; also preceding him in death were his son, Michael Greene; his sister, Reba Maudeen Greene; and his brother, Ray Eugene Greene; and

WHEREAS, surviving Mr. Greene are his daughter, Rebecca Lynne Greene McCobin and her husband, the Reverend Tim McCobin; his grandson, Bryan Timothy McCobin; his great-granddaughter, Bayles Grace McCobin; and several nieces and nephews; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Greene leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Morris W. Greene, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Greene.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.